

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 02642 291214Z

41

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 PRS-01 L-01 /036 W

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R 281518Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1904

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2642

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MCAP, MASS, CG

SUBJECT: ROCKWELL REPORT

REF: STRAND/HINTON LETTER OF MARCH 14

1. AS I SEE IT, ROCKWELL REPORT IS CRUCIAL BUILDING BLOCK
IN REFURBISHING OUR RELATIONS WITH MOBUTU AND ZAIRE.
CLEARLY MTAT WORK WILL RESULT IN CREDIBLE TECHNICAL
REPORT BUT IF THIS BUILDING BLOCK IS NOT TO BE LEAD-
BRICK, ITS DELIVERY NEEDS TO BE ACCOMPANIED, AS GEN.
ROCKWELL
HAS EMPHASIZED, BY SOME TANGIBLE SHORT-TERM
INPUT.

2. TIMING OF GEN. ROCKWELL'S RETURN HERE IS AGAIN IMPORTANT AND
I ASSUME DEPT AND DEFENSE WILL SEEK MY CONCURRENCE
BEFORE AUTHORIZING REPORT DELIVERY. MY TENTATIVE VIEW
IS THAT DELIVERY SHOULD BE OCCASION TO TRY TO BROADEN
DISCUSSION TO CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC TRADE-OFFS
AND PERHAPS SOME POLITICAL ISSUES. AS OF TODAY,
DESPITE OUR COMMITMENT FOR MID-APRIL DELIVERY, I
SUSPECT SOME DELAY WOULD SERVE US BETTER THAN ON-SCHEDULE
DELIVERY. INDEED, I HAVE BEGUN PREPARE WAY FOR DELAY
BY MENTIONING TO MUBUTU THAT I MIGHT RETURN TO WASHINGTON
IN APRIL. HOWEVER, DELAY IDEA IS TENTATIVE AND SHOULD
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PAGE 02 KINSHA 02642 291214Z

ICE BEGIN TO BREAK HERE, WE MIGHT INDEED DO BETTER TO

STAY ON SCHEDULE. CRUCIAL POINT IS THAT TIMING
DECISION NOT BE MADE WITHOUT FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS
WITH EMBASSY.
HINTON

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NNN

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